

# From the Upper Chamber



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## Report for Tuesday, February 14, 2006

The eighteenth day of the 2006 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Mark Taylor**.

Senator **Don Thomas** of the 54<sup>th</sup> stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 540-545; Senate Resolutions 848, 849 and 853; and House Bills 400, 959, 1054, 1096, 1106, 1251, 1264, 1267, 1269 -1271 and 1277 were read for the first time and assigned to their respective Committees.

The Secretary read the reports of Standing Committees and the second reading of Bills and Resolutions.

Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19<sup>th</sup> was recognized to serve notice that at the proper time the Senate would resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole to discuss the FY 2006 Amended Budget.

The morning roll call was then taken.

Lt. Gov. **Taylor** then recognized Sen. **Chip Rogers** of the 21<sup>st</sup> to lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sen. **Rogers** introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Pastor **Johnny Hunt** of First Baptist Church in Woodstock, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

SR 847, 850-852 and 854-858 were read and adopted.

Sen. **Steen Miles** of the 43<sup>rd</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to recognize the Food Service Workers of Rockdale County present in the gallery.

Sen. **Jeff Mullis** of the 53<sup>rd</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to speak to Tourism Day at the Capitol and the success of Georgia tourism.

The Local Consent Calendar, consisting of HB 1159, passed by a vote of 42 to 0.

SB 434, creating an Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Compact to regulate designated insurance products, was then read. Sen. **Ralph Hudgens** of the 47<sup>th</sup> took the well to present the legislation. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Regina Thomas** of the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

SB 434 passed by a vote of 46 to 0.

The Secretary then read SR 743, recognizing Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) Day at the Capitol. Without objection, the resolution was adopted. Sens. **Dan Moody** of the 56<sup>th</sup> and **Jim Whitehead, Sr.** of the 24<sup>th</sup> spoke further to the resolution and introduced members of the organization.

The Secretary then read SR 734, which commends Coosa High School for winning the Governor's Office of School Achievement 2005 Gold Award. Without objection, the resolution was adopted. Sen. **Preston Smith** of the 52<sup>nd</sup> was recognized to speak further to the resolution and introduce the group.

The Secretary then read SR 699, commending the Georgia Rural Health Association and recognizing Rural Health Day. Without objection, the resolution was adopted. Sen. **Thomas** of the 54<sup>th</sup> was recognized to speak to the resolution and present the group.

Sen. **Michael Meyer von Bremen** of the 12<sup>th</sup> took the well to speak to SB 469, which was previously read. The legislation updates provisions relating to corporations, partnerships and associations. Sen. **Meyer von Bremen** noted that the bill was designed to bring Georgia code on track with other states in order to remain competitive in attracting business to incorporate within the state.

The Committee Substitute was adopted by a vote of 41 to 0.

SB 469 passed by substitute by a vote of 52 to 0.

SR 846 was then read. Without objection, the resolution was adopted and Sen. **Johnny Grant** of the 25<sup>th</sup> was recognized to speak to the resolution, which commends Miss **Blair Harshbarger**. Sen. **Grant** introduced Miss **Harshbarger** and congratulated her on winning the 2006 Georgia Junior Miss Competition.

The Secretary then read SB 373, which provides for an honorary license for the un-remarried surviving spouse or child of certain deceased military persons. Sen. **John Douglas** of the 17<sup>th</sup> took the well to present the bill.

SB 373 passed by a vote of 49 to 0.

The Secretary then read SB 385, regarding insurers investing in Canada. Sen. **Hudgens** took the well to speak to the bill, which clarifies a population requirement of Canadian cities. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Steve Henson** of the 41<sup>st</sup>.

The Committee Substitute was adopted by a vote of 38 to 0.

SB 385 passed by substitute by a vote of 49 to 2.

Sens. **Douglas** and **Miles** took the well to recognize members of the Georgia School Nutrition Board present in the gallery.

Sen. **Miles** also recognized students from G. P. Babb Middle School present in the gallery.

SR 802, which commends the class of Leadership Clayton 2006, was read and adopted. Sen. **Valencia Seay** of the 34<sup>th</sup> was recognized to speak to the resolution and introduce the group.

The Secretary then read HB 1080, which provides for an income tax credit with respect to qualified child and dependent care expenses. Sen. **Casey Cagle** of the 49<sup>th</sup> took the well to speak to the bill.

HB 1080 passed by a vote of 50 to 0.

Majority Leader **Williams** then moved the Senate stand adjourned until Wednesday, February 15, at 9:30 a.m. Following the announcements, the motion carried and the Senate stood adjourned.

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